



United States Department of the Interior

OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY
Washington, DC 20240

SEP 07 2016

Dear Tribal Leader:

On March 15, 2016, I invited you to consult on a funding plan for the one-time appropriation of \$10 million that Congress provided for tribal court systems in P.L. 280 states. Congress provided the funding for assessing needs; considering options; and design, development, and piloting tribal court systems for tribal communities. See Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2016, Public Law 114-113, H.R. 2029, December 18, 2015.

We have reviewed written input and the discussions at the April 19 and April 26, 2016, consultation sessions. Based on this input, we have developed a final funding plan, which I invite you to read at <http://www.indianaffairs.gov/WhoWeAre/BIA/OJS/index.htm>.

The plan has been adjusted based on many of the concerns tribes expressed throughout consultation and provides the reasoning for each of the approaches.

In addition, please note that eligibility to receive funding under a number of the plan's components is contingent upon the completion of a court assessment coordinated by the Office of Justice Services Tribal Court Assessment Program. To request a court assessment, interested tribes should contact Mr. Bennie Francisco, Court Assessment Director, Office of Justice Services, Bureau of Indian Affairs, at 505-563-3419, or via email at bennie.francisco@bia.gov.

If you have any questions regarding the plan or its execution, please contact Ms. Tricia Tingle, Associate Director, Tribal Justice Support Directorate, Office of Justice Services, Bureau of Indian Affairs, at 202-208-2675.

Sincerely,

Lawrence S. Roberts
Principal Deputy Assistant Secretary –
Indian Affairs